

**CITY OF WILLMAR, MINNESOTA  
REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE ACTION**

**Agenda Item Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Meeting Date:** August 27, 2013

**Attachments:** Yes ☐ No ☒

**CITY COUNCIL ACTION**

**Date:** September 3, 2013

☐ Approved ☐ Denied  
☐ Amended ☐ Tabled  
☐ Other

**Originating Department:** Police

**Agenda Item:** Dangerous Weapons Ordinance - continued

**Recommended Action:**

**Background/Summary:** Referred back to committee by Council

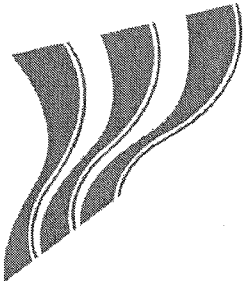
**Alternatives:** 1. Approve as is  
2. Make amendments  
3. Do nothing

**Financial Considerations:** None

**Preparer:** Bruce D. Peterson, AICP  
Director of Planning & Development Services

**Signature:**

**Comments:**



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**Originating Department:** Planning & Development Services

**Agenda Item:** MinnWest Lift Station/Lakeland Drive Sanitary Sewer Project

**Recommended Action:** Receive for information

**Background/Summary:** Planning and design continues under the Bollig Inc. contract for lift station and sanitary sewer improvements (see attachment).

**Alternatives:** NA

**Financial Considerations:** To be determined

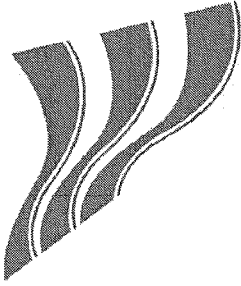
**Preparer:** Bruce D. Peterson, AICP, Acting Public Works Director

**Signature:**

**Comments:**

### **Minn West Lift Station/Lakeland Drive Sanitary Sewer Project**

- Design and engineering work continues on the Minn West Lift Station/Lakeland Drive Sanitary Sewer project. A recent meeting was held to discuss tech memo number 2 and to review the 30% design drawings for the lift station.
- The lift station design process is moving along well. Plans will be developed in time to include the lift station and force main in the 2014 projects.
- Work has slowed on the Lakeland Drive Sanitary Sewer replacement. Televising of the sewer line was attempted, but due to several obstacles, about 57% of the line was televised. Several impediments to flow exist in the line.
- Overall, the condition of the line as viewed through televising shows that the line is in reasonably good condition. The line also is well below its capacity. For those reasons, the technical team of staff and consultants has determined that it is in the City's best interest to delay reconstruction of the sewer line.
- The sewer line should be replaced when a complete reconstruction of the street is done. Until that time, some cleaning will be attempted to remove the impediments that exist in the line.
- With the line not being replaced in its entirety, there is no need to proceed with the complete reconstruction of Lakeland Drive. An overlay is being considered.
- Discussion continues regarding how to proceed with the construction of the trail and quiet zone that were originally part of the project. A more detailed look is being taken at the section of Lakeland Drive between High Avenue and Trott Avenue relative to traffic flow, and improvements that could include additional turn lanes.
- Further updates will be available in the future.



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**Originating Department:** Planning & Development Services

**Agenda Item:** Sewer Credits Report

**Recommended Action:** Receive for information; or set policy to establish a process for receiving sewer credits.

**Background/Summary:** Users of large quantities of water with limited return to the sanitary system occasionally seek credits on their sewer bills to reflect reduced usage. No formal policy exists to govern the activity (see attachment).

**Alternatives:** 1. Operate as is, review on a case by case basis.  
2. Research and develop a process for granting credits.

**Financial Considerations:** Reduced revenue due to any credits granted.

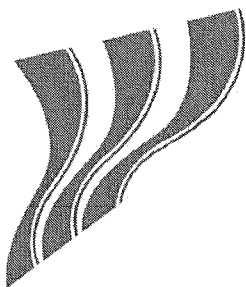
**Preparer:** Bruce D. Peterson, AICP, Acting Public Works Director

**Signature:**

**Comments:**

### **Sewer Credits**

- Staff recently met with Willmar Municipal Utilities personnel to discuss sewer credits.
- Credits are currently being given to J's Bait, Kandiyohi Bottled Water, and several irrigators. The sewer credits are given to large users of water that do not return a commensurate amount to the sanitary system due to the processes involved in their businesses.
- A possible policy was discussed to deal with those businesses that request sewer credits.
- Users would need to prove their case using an agreed-upon formula, or a user could install a sewer meter to measure outflow. It was a consensus of the group that, until there is a big demand, users should be dealt with individually.
- It was noted that the use of sprinklers in the summer was already built into the rate structure.
- It was determined that the matter should be discussed at Committee to decide if a policy for sewer credits is needed.



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Originating Department: Planning & Development Services

Agenda Item: Effluent Credits Report

Recommended Action: Receive for information

Background/Summary: Staff investigated the potential for selling effluent credits to other communities (see attached)

Alternatives: 1. Pursue the sale of credits.  
2. Do nothing.

Financial Considerations: Impacts are undetermined, speculative.

Preparer: Bruce D. Peterson, AICP, Acting Public Works Director

Signature: 

Comments:

## **Effluent Credits**

- City staff met with representatives of Donohue and Associates to discuss the matter of effluent credits.
- It was noted that the credits could apply to phosphorous, only. The City could sell credits to other cities within the watershed because our current plant is discharging water that is substantially below the maximum limit.
- It was agreed that credits would probably only be sought by small cities.
- Willmar is at a disadvantage because the City is so far up the watershed (Minnesota River basin). Available credits would be discounted due to our location.
- If MPCA is successful, the City will be looking at a reduction of its TMDL for phosphorous from 1.0 to .8. This reduction reduces the feasibility of trading credits as it puts the City at more risk for non-compliance.
- The revenue potential of selling credits is very low and the demand is low, if it exists at all.
- Other cities most likely already have compliance strategies.
- The sale of effluent credits seems to be too risky for the potential gain that would be received. Future compliance limits are unknown and are a major concern.
- If the Council wishes to proceed with consideration of the sale of effluent credits, the next step would be to determine what the true limit will be for our phosphorous discharge. The City would also need to know what compliance limit it could live with.
- The second step would be to consult with MPCA to see what our trade potential is or whether or not the City can stand the risk of non-compliance.